



CONNECTICUT RECREATION  
AND PARKS ASSOCIATION

## Letter of Support For HB6261 – Increasing Penalties for ATV Infractions

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Planning and Development Committee:

### **Please favorably report HB6261.**

By requiring all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) to pay increased penalties for offenses, this bill will reduce illegal use of ATVs.

Facilities which ban ATVs and other motorized vehicles have these rules for important reasons. Often, ATVs are incompatible with the intended use, such as on walking trails where they pose an undue hazard along these narrow pathways. In other instances, ATVs cause considerable and irreversible damage to protected and limited natural resources, such as in wetlands and other fragile ecosystems.

Legal users of public land, where ATVs are prohibited, would have a viable method of identifying and reporting illegal use to the proper authorities. Knowing that they could easily be identified and reported, ATV users would be less likely to venture onto properties that prohibit motorized vehicles.

Additionally, the designation of trails for legal ATV use, in combination with funding and safety training, will go a long way toward solving potential issues of conflict of use.

As the statewide association of professionals in the parks and recreation field, who maintain the majority of public land in Connecticut, we are in favor of this bill.

Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association (CRPA) is a non-profit 501 (C)(3) organization dedicated to the promotion, development, and improvement of all recreation and parks services within the State of Connecticut. CRPA has approximately 700 members, who represent almost all 169 towns in Connecticut.